(c) the special reason that prompted the Superintendent to take away the power from those Panchayats?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Yes; through the respective Panchayats in certain cases.

(b) Vilvattom, (2) Thaniam, (3) Vadakkancheri, (4) Kariyannur, (5) Porathisseri, (6) Parappukkara, (7) Ollur, (8) Velukkara, (9) Vellarappalli, (10) Ollukkara, (11) Irinjalakkuda, (12) Kattur, (13) Adatt, (14) Ayyanthole, (15) Padiyur. There is no special section regarding this.

(c) Publishing a notification from this office inviting tenders through Panchayats, does not mean taking away the power of Panchayats. This has only minimised the work of the several Panchayats. What was actually done was to cause notifications to be published in the Gazette and also to have spare copies of the printed notification distributed to the several Panchayats with a view to give wide publicity to the work. By the notification, the tenders were to be presented in the respective Panchayats who were asked to transmit them to the Superintendent with their remarks. The agreements, etc., are also got executed through Panchayats and they are to supervise the works.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I want to know, when there is already complaint that the Superintendent is overburdened with work, why he should take this burden also, if there is no special rule regarding that.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—The procedure that I have adopted means less waste of energy, less waste of Government paper and less waste of time. All these works are entered in one notification and so it saves considerable time and energy.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Is it not an additional burden to the Superintendent?

President.—He does not consider it to be so.

174. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government be pleased to inform the House:—

(a) as to the rules which authorises the Panchayat Superintendent to call for and accept tenders with respect to original works within the limits of the Panchayats;

(b) whether such rules have been published in the Government Gazette; if so, the date and page of the Gazette;

(c) whether the Government has considered that active interference with the internal work of the Panchayats is contrary to the policy underlying the constitution of Panchayats as independent and self-governing institutions?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) and (b). Vide answer to question No. 173 (b).

(c) No such active interference requiring special consideration has been brought to the notice of the Government.

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Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—For the question as to the rules which authorise the Panchayat Superintendent to call for and accept tenders, I am asked to refer to question No. 173. It is said there that there is no special section regarding this. May I know under what rule ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Under orders of the Diwan, and under orders of the Government ; but there is no specific rule or specific order.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—So it is not a provision of law.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—No.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—So tenders are within the jurisdiction of the Panchayats. The Superintendent has called for tenders not provided in any law. May I know the provision of law under which the Superintendent called for tenders ? He has jurisdiction only to call for tenders below Rs. 500, and it is left to the discretion of Government if it is above Rs. 500 to define the agency to carry out the work. With reference to works below Rs. 500, the Panchayats have complete jurisdiction in the matter.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I do not understand the Member.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—With regard to works below Rs. 500 the Panchayat has complete jurisdiction to call for tenders.

President.—Yes.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—But in answer to my question it is said that even with regard to such works the Superintendent directly calls for tenders and entrusts the work to others according to the Panchayat Regulation. The Panchayat has absolute jurisdiction in this matter and the Panchayat Superintendent should not interfere with the matter.

President.—The matter is treated as one of concurrent jurisdiction. The Superintendent of Agriculture and Panchayats has got jurisdiction, but he will be advised not to exercise his jurisdiction. There is no illegality in his exercising the jurisdiction.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—The Panchayat Regulation does not give any original jurisdiction to the Superintendent.

President.—He will have this jurisdiction also.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—There is no rule which confers upon him any jurisdiction at all. This has

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been done not as a matter of exception but as a matter of general rule in all cases where tenders are called for.

President.—I think tenders can be called for under the inspection is our each Panchayat.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Are not the persons who call these tenders coming from outside ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Very many works are tendered for by the people of the locality.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—But not all, I believe.

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Generally this is the case.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—In such cases is it not better for the Panchayats to call for tenders ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—Generally Panchayats call for tenders at their own recommendations and on these recommendations I will pass final orders. I do not receive tenders myself.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Has he got the power to accept these recommendations ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—I have got.

Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Has not the Panchayat got the power to accept these tenders ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—No. Above Rs. 500 the Panchayat has not got power.

Stud Bulls.

175. Mr. V. V. Anantapadmanabha Ayyar.—Will the Government inform the House as to:—(a) the number of stud bulls maintained in the Farm at Ollukkara ;

(b) whether any special facilities have been made for farmers who live at a distance from the Farm to get the service of the stud bulls ;

(c) whether any stud bull is being maintained in any other station; if so, where ;

(d) has the Government considered the advisability of supplying a stud bull each to every Panchayat ;

(e) does the Government encourage the keeping of stud bulls by private owners by giving them grants for the maintenance of the same ;

(f) is the Government aware that the system of giving grants to private owners is being adopted in Travancore?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) Eight.

(b) The animals belonging to ryots are on requisition admitted to the Central Farm and sent back after service. Feeding and covering charges are levied. If, however, any ryot finds it inconvenient to send all his animals to the Farm, the De-

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